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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q64853  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kazuo KURODA, et al.

Appln. No. 09/874,220

Confirmation No.: 5673

Filed: June 06, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2131

Examiner: Not Yet Known

**RECEIVED**

DEC 14 2001

Technology Center 2100

For: COPYRIGHT PROTECTION METHOD, REPRODUCTION METHOD,  
REPRODUCTION APPARATUS, RECORDING METHOD AND RECORDING  
APPARATUS

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 12, 2001

Darryl Mexic  
Registration No. 23,063

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office.

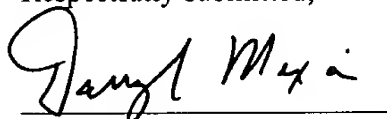
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under § 1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
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U.S. Appln. No. 09/874,220

request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a Statement can be made, a Statement is submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darryl Mexic", written over a horizontal line.

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